

Supplemental Amendment and Response
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REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Huynh for the courtesy of an in-person interview at the Office with the undersigned on November 9, 2005. Applicants agreed to provide this Supplemental Amendment and Response including the claim amendments described herein and the attached Supplemental Declaration of Dr. Joan W. Miller, Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School and Chief of Ophthalmology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants have further amended claims 33 and 41 to recite that the method enhances closure of unwanted choroidal neovasculation. Support for these amendments is found, for example, on page 15, lines 1-19 of the application as filed. Additionally, amended claim 33 also recites that step (b) occurs after step (a) and that endothelial cells are damaged. Support for these amendments is found, for example, on page 4, lines 5-8 and 25-26 of the application as filed.

The Supplemental Declaration

Experiments have been conducted using an antibody fragment that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor ("VEGF") in combination with benzoporphyrin derivative photodynamic therapy ("PDT"). In the Declaration, Dr. Miller declares that, in a monkey model, the combination of verteporfin (also known as benzoporphyrin derivative, a tetrapyrrole derivative) PDT and an antibody fragment that binds VEGF is more effective at treating choroidal neovasculation than verteporfin PDT alone. (Declaration, paragraph 5.) Applicants submit that the Declaration demonstrates the benefit of such a combination therapy in treating choroidal neovasculation in a mammal.

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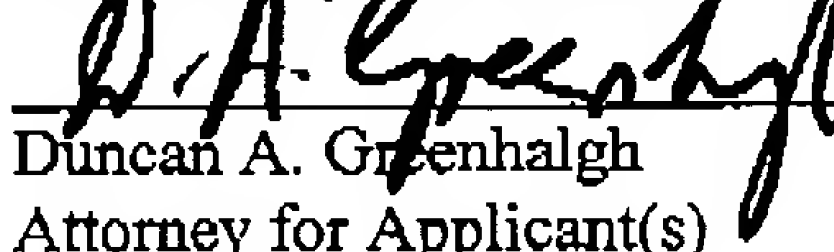
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions about this submission. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,


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